

HAPPENING



**Maurice,
Lulu to
'wed soon'**

LULU and Maurice Gibb, who announced their surprise engagement on Lulu's first new TV show on Saturday, will marry "very soon."

The couple, whose on/off romance kept fans on tenterhooks last year, first met in November 1967 when the Bee Gees appeared at London's Saville Theatre.

Maurice proposed to Lulu a few weeks ago and bought her a sapphire and diamond engagement ring that cost several thousand pounds.

"I suppose I did it because we'd suddenly become inseparable," Maurice told Disc on Monday. "We were sitting at home and I said 'Let's get married,' she said 'Yes,' and it was all decided before we knew where we were."

The much-publicised romance came to a head last March when Lulu started going out with Davy Jones in America and Maurice had a succession of other girlfriends, including Tiger Mathis of the Paper Dolls.

Maurice and Lulu split up for six months, and in October declared they had "grown up and changed" and were again seen around town together.

White wedding

"We haven't set a definite date for the wedding yet," said Maurice, "but we want to get married as soon as we both have a minute of free time from work."

"We both want a white church wedding—not too big—

with just family and friends. And we're both keen to have a large family."

Maurice and Lulu, who are both very busy with their own careers, will cut down on a lot of work so that they aren't apart for long stretches at a time.

"The money situation doesn't worry us—we're both earning almost equivalent amounts. But being apart does."

"It's terrible to be separated

when you're so happy—it's a wrench even for a few days. But we both know what the pop scene is like; it's our work and we've both got to face the fact that sometimes we'll be at different ends of the world."

The couple are currently looking for a house in the country.

"The main thing is to get some peace and quiet," said Maurice fervently. "We both need it at the moment!"



New records

BEE GEES' new single, on January 17, is two-part title track from next album, "Odessa," which lasts eight minutes.

Leap Lee's follow-up to "Little Arrows" is a new Barry Mason song, "Here Comes The Rain" (10), not to be confused with Mitch Murray's comedy hit.

Tiny Tim makes strong chart bid with his version of Jerry Lee Lewis rock standard, "Great Balls Of Fire" (10).

Sly and Family Stone's long-awaited follow-up is "Everyday People," while Isley Brothers release "I Guess I'll Always Love You" off "This Old Heart Of Mine" album (both 10).

Vera Lynn borrows from Beatles for chart bid with "Goodnight" and "Fool On The Hill" (10). Atlantic releases from Aretha Franklin ("Don't Let Me Lose This Dream") and Sam and Dave ("Soul Sister, Brown Sugar")—both on January 10.

Herb Alpert and Tijuana Brass chart bid with "My Favourite Things" (10).

Love Affair hit-writer Philip Goodhand-Tait turns singer for first time with "Love's Got Hold Of Me" (10).

James Brown ("That's Life") and Junior Walker and the All Stars ("Home Cookin'") complete big-name January 10 singles.

Pye re-release Lorraine Ellison's "Stay With Me Baby," which inspired mildly-successful Walker Brothers' "cover" version, on January 17, due to popular demand.

Next from Kasenetz-Katz is

Beatles' song, "We Can Work It Out" (17), and on same date comes overdue Sue Nicholls newie "All The Way To Heaven."

Watch out for an instrumental, "Soulful Strut," America's fastest-selling single currently by Young-Holt Unlimited, two-piece outfit which used to make up Ramsey Lewis Trio.

Ex-Spoonful John Sebastian's solo chart bid is "She's A Lady," while overdue new singles from Rita Pavone ("Sunshine Boy"), David McWilliams ("The Stranger") and Gary Walker and Rain with "Come In, You'll Get Pneumonia."

Tamla Motown offer New Year goodies in shape of six albums out in January: Four Tops' "Yesterday's Dreams"; Smokey Robinson's "Special Occasion"; Marvelettes' "Sophisticated Soul"; Marvin Gaye's "In The Groove"; Diana Ross and Supremes' "Love Child"; and Diana Ross and the Supremes' "Join The Temptations."

EMI enclosing competition leaflet with each album with list of 20 song titles and public is invited to list best 12 to make next Tamla Chartbusters album. Prize is BMC Mini complete with radio, tape recorder and dozen Tamla LPs.

"Yellow Submarine" soundtrack album, featuring Beatles and George Martin's Orchestra, heads rest of January LPs. Others include: "Bobby Gentry Meets Glen Campbell"; Turtles' "Battle Of The Bands"; Ray Stevens' "Even Stevens"; Ike and Tina Turner's "So Fine"; Jerry Lee Lewis' "Another Place, Another Time"; "Tiny Tim's Second Album"; Mason Williams' "Ear Show"; "Association's Greatest Hits";

Sergio Mendes' "Fool On The Hill."

Cut-price Marble Arch label offers "Nina Simone"; Donovan's "Fairytale"; Herb Alpert's "Early Alpert"; and "Take Some Time Out" by Isley Brothers.

"Pye Records Present Ten Years Of Golden Hits" is double album featuring all their biggest hits, dating back as far as Emile Ford's heyday. Costs 28s. 6d.

One worth hearing: "Joseph And The Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat" by Mixed Bag, which includes Who Roger Daltrey's brother, David.

1969's first nude: girl featured on cover of Carmen Cavallero February release "More" (MCA). Locomotive follow-up "Rudy's In Love" with another Norman Haines song, "Mister Arme-geddon" for January 17 release. They also bring out album on February 14, mainly of Haines songs.

On the way

ANOTHER Moody Blues concert in London. Either Royal Festival or Albert Hall. To launch new album — being recorded January/February — before leaving for mammoth U.S. tour in early April.

Donovan to make rare appearance in this country next Monday (January 6) at charity concert at Richard Hale School, Hertford. All proceeds go to mentally handicapped children.

Brian Auger and the Trinity album — without Julie Driscoll — titled "Definitely What" next month.

Great start to the New Year with MCA records



Amory Kane
'Memories of
time unwound'

MUPS 384



Rabbit Mackay
'Bug cloth'

MUPS 351



Burl Ives
'Ring of fire'

MUPS 349



Al Jolson
'Toot, toot, Tootsie'

MUPS 352



Patsy Cline
'Always'

MUPS 350



**The
Irish Rovers**
'Liverpool Lou'

MUPS 353